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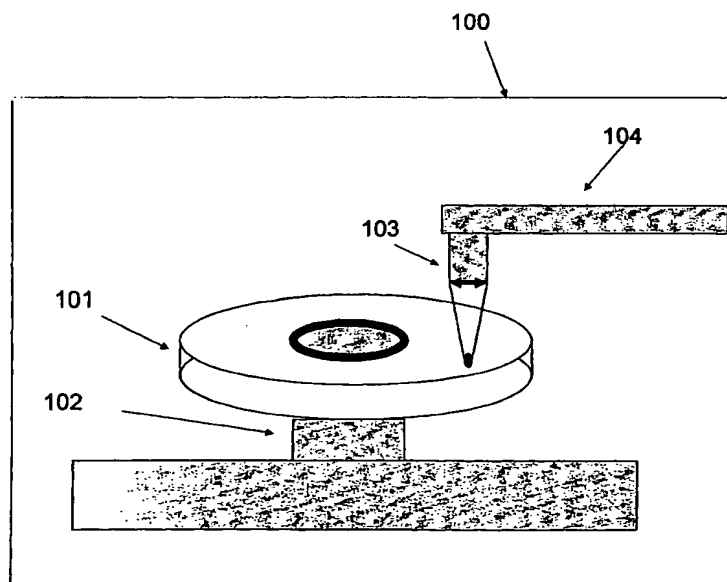
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(54) Title: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR FORMATTING AND TRACKING INFORMATION IN A THREE-DIMEN-
SIONAL STORAGE MEDIUM**



(57) Abstract: A formatter (100) for inscription of marks on to a 3D translucent optical medium (101) to enable recording and retrieval of information from the medium, includes a clamping mechanism to hold the media, and at least one optical unit (103) calibrated to focus at least one diffraction limited spot within the medium at a respective depth therein. At least one light source is optimized for the inscription of marks, and at least one actuator (104) moves the spot relative to the medium.



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